

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A control apparatus capable of controlling ~~a plurality of instruments~~ first instrument and second instrument, which have specified functions and move relatedly with mutual movements, comprising:

a control right acquisition device for acquiring a control right to control ~~an arbitrary instrument out of said plurality of instruments~~ the second instrument by using one acquisition command; and

a control restriction device for restricting to control of another instrument, of which control right is not acquired, in accordance with control right information about said control right acquired by said control right acquisition device both the first instrument and second instrument when the control right of the second instrument is acquired by another apparatus; and

a control permission device for permitting to control both the first instrument and the second instrument when the control right of the second instrument is acquired by using said one acquisition command.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The control apparatus according to Claim 2 1, wherein:

said control restriction device invalidates a control command for controlling said ~~plurality of instruments~~ the first instrument and the second instrument when another apparatus acquires ~~said~~ the control right.

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The control apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a display device for displaying at least ~~said control right~~ information about the control right.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A control system capable of controlling ~~a plurality of cameras~~ first instrument and second instrument, which are connected to a network and move relatedly with mutual movements, from remote locations, comprising:

a control right acquisition device for acquiring a control right to control an ~~arbitrary camera out of said plurality of cameras~~ the second instrument by using acquisition command; and

a control restriction device for restricting to control of another camera, of which control right is not acquired, in accordance with control right information about said control right acquired by said control right acquisition device both the first instrument and second instrument when the control right of the second instrument is acquired by another apparatus; and

a control permission device for permitting to control both the first instrument and the second instrument when the control right of the second instrument is acquired by using said one acquisition command.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The control system according to Claim 6, further comprising:

a display device for displaying at least ~~said control right~~ information about the control right.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method of controlling ~~a plurality of instruments~~ first instrument and second instrument, which have specified functions and move relatedly with mutual movements, comprising:

a control right acquisition step of acquiring a control right ~~of an arbitrary instrument out of said plurality of instruments~~ to control the second instrument by using one acquisition command; and

a control restriction step of restricting ~~to control of another instrument, of which control right is not acquired, in accordance with control right information about said control right acquired in said control right acquisition step~~ both the first instrument and second instrument when the control right of the second instrument is acquired by another apparatus; and

a control permission step of permitting to control both the first instrument and the second instrument when the control right of the second instrument is acquired by using said one acquisition command.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The control method according to Claim 9 8, wherein: said control restriction step includes a step of invalidating a control command for controlling ~~said plurality of instruments~~ the first instrument and the second instrument when another apparatus acquires ~~said~~ the control right.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A method of controlling ~~a plurality of cameras~~ first camera and second camera , which are connected to a network and move relatedly with mutual movements, from a plurality of remote locations comprising:

a control right acquisition step of acquiring a control right to control ~~an arbitrary camera out of said plurality of cameras~~ the second camera by using one acquisition command;
and

a control restriction step of restricting ~~to control of another camera, of which control right is not acquired, in accordance with control right information about said control right acquired in said control right acquisition step~~ both the first camera and second camera when the control right of the second camera is acquired by another apparatus; and

a control permission step of permitting to control both the first camera and the second camera when the control right of the second camera is acquired by using said one acquisition command.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The control method according to Claim 12, further comprising:

a display step of displaying at least ~~said control right~~ information about control right.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): A camera control system which is formed of a server/client constitution and enabling to control a plurality of cameras through a network, comprising:

a first camera for being controlled in an image pickup direction;

a second camera for being controlled in an image pickup direction;

a control means for controlling the image pickup direction of said second camera which picks up an area within an image pickup range of said first camera; and

a control restriction means for restricting to control said first camera when an arbitrary client acquires a control right of said second camera.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The control system according to Claim 14, wherein:

said control restriction means restricts controlling of said first camera performed by another client does not acquire said control right.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): A method of controlling a control system which is formed of a server/client constitution and enabling through a network to control capable of controlling an image pickup direction of a first camera and a second camera, comprising:

a control step of controlling the image pickup direction of said second camera, which picks up within an image pickup range of said camera; and

a control restriction step of restricting to control said first camera when an arbitrary client acquires a control right of said second camera.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The control method according to Claim 16, wherein:

said control restriction step includes a step of restricting controlling of said first camera performed by other clients except for said client which acquires said control right of said second camera.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A control apparatus capable of controlling ~~a plurality of cameras~~ first camera and second camera, which move relatedly with mutual movements, comprising:

a control right acquisition device for acquiring a control right to control ~~an arbitrary camera out of said plurality of cameras~~ the second camera by using acquisition command; and

a control restriction device for restricting to control of another camera, of which control right is not acquired, in accordance with control right information about said control

~~right acquired by said control right acquisition device~~ both the first camera and second camera
when the control right of the second camera is acquired by another apparatus; and
a control permission device for permitting to control both the first camera and the
second camera when the control right of the second camera is acquired by using said one
acquisition command.

Claim 19 (Cancelled).